NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

RANDY G. MASSEY ACTING UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700

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OKLAHOMA RESIDENT SENTENCED FOR ROLE IN METHAMPHETAMINE CONSPIRACY

Randy G. Massey, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, today announced that **Lisa Ferguson**, age 46, of Yukon, Oklahoma, was sentenced to 168 months imprisonment based upon her plea of guilty to one count of an indictment returned against her which alleged her involvement in a conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute over 500 grams of a mixture and substance containing methamphetamine between November 2001 and May 2005. The judgment was entered in United States District Court at Benton, Illinois, on December 4, 2006.

Evidence submitted to the court at the time of her plea revealed that on December 17, 2004, the Illinois State Police and DEA obtained information from United Parcel Service personnel in Williamson County, Illinois, about a suspicious package. A trained, drug-sniffing, dog was used to verify that the package contained drugs and a Williamson County, Illinois, state search warrant was obtained to open the package. Found inside was 342 grams of methamphetamine.

Co-defendants have been previously sentenced to terms of 108 months, 88 months, and 87 months imprisonment.

Investigation into the case was handled by the Illinois State Police, the Johnson County State's Attorney and Sheriff, the Williamson County State's Attorney, and by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Michael C. Carr.